

CROP REPORT



AUGUST 28, 2003
PRESS RELEASE

1220 SW 3rd Ave., Room 1735
Portland, OR 97204

2003 Hazelnut Forecast up 79 Percent

Hazelnut production in Oregon is forecast to be 35,000 tons this year, according to the Oregon Agricultural Statistics Service (OASS). If realized, this would be 79 percent above last year's final crop estimate and 29 percent less than the record high production in 2001.

With an alternate year bearing cycle, hazelnut production is expected to increase from last season's modest crop. Growers are expecting to begin harvest in mid-to-late September. Eastern Filbert Blight continues to limit potential production in infected orchards.

There was an average of 261 nuts picked per tree this year from the OASS Hazelnut Objective Yield Survey. This compares with 222 in 2002, and 574 in 2001. The percentage of good nuts found in the OASS laboratory was a record 88.0% and is up from 84.4% in 2002 and 85.7% in 2001. The average dry weight of these good nuts was a record-low 2.89 grams, 0.42 of a gram lighter than last year and 0.06 of a gram lighter than in 2001, which was the previous record-low. Brown stained nuts amounted to just 0.12 percent of the laboratory sample, an historic low, down from 0.73 percent in 2002.

Washington production is no longer estimated separately; it is included in the Oregon estimate.

Hazelnuts: Utilized production, by State and United States, 2000-2003 ^{1/}

State	Utilized production (In-shell basis)			
	2000	2001	2002 ^{2/}	Forecast 2003 ^{3/}
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
Oregon	22,300	49,500	19,500	35,000
United States	22,500	49,500	19,500	35,000

^{1/} Starting in 2001 a separate forecast for Washington was discontinued.

^{2/} Revised June 5th, 2003.

^{3/} As of August 28, 2003.

Oregon Hazelnuts: Share of Good Nuts by Size, 2000-2003

OASS Laboratory			Share of Good Nuts				Industry Equivalents	
Size	Minimum Measure	Maximum Measure	2000	2001	2002	2003	Size	Measure
	mm	mm	percent	percent	percent	percent		mm
1		14.6	0.5	1.4	0.2	0.5	Small	less than 17.9
2	14.6	18.3	6.0	16.1	7.4	12.0	Small	less than 17.9
3	18.3	19.9	7.9	13.8	7.6	15.6	Medium	17.9 to 19.4
4	19.9	20.9	5.4	14.4	7.5	15.2	Large	19.4 to 22.2
5	20.9	22.0	8.5	19.2	13.8	20.6	Large	19.4 to 22.2
6	22.0	22.6	10.4	11.4	11.8	12.6	Large	19.4 to 22.2
7	22.6	23.6	20.2	12.5	18.9	12.7	Jumbo	22.2 +
8	23.6		41.1	11.2	32.8	10.8	Jumbo	22.2 +

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<http://www.nass.usda.gov/or>

e-mail: nass-or@nass.usda.gov